

REMARKS

Please reconsider the rejections of the claims in light of the following arguments and allow the pending claims.

Applicants thank the Examiner for his withdrawal of the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, 1st and 2nd paragraphs.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 46-54, 56, 58, 59, 61, 62, 70, 71, 78, 82-100, 103, and 104 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jackson in view of Sokol, et al. (CA 1087955) (Sokol).

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claim 81 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. That is essentially what has been done by incorporating certain new limitations into claim 1 and into claim 103 as indicated in the amendments and canceling claim 104. In particular, "siloxanes" has been replaced by the particular type of siloxanes – polydimethylsiloxanes and polydimethylhydroxysiloxanes. The basis for these amendments can be found at page 15, lines 20 and 21 of the application as filed. In addition, the possibility that the second compound is a silane or soya lecithin has been maintained as the Examiner did not raise an issue with respect to those materials. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the claims as amended are patentable over the prior art.

The polydimethylhydroxysiloxane has been found allowable by the Examiner. In addition, there is no disclosure or suggestion to use a polydimethylsiloxane by Sokol. The only polysiloxane arguably used by Sokol is a polyoxyethylene-polysiloxane.

These have entirely different structures from polydimethylsiloxanes. Therefore, there is nothing in Sokol or Jackson to encourage one of ordinary skill in the art to arrive at the present invention. Thus, the subject matter of the claims is non-obvious and patentable.

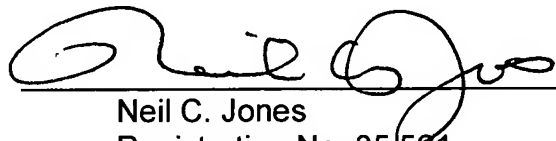
In sum, in view of the foregoing arguments, we respectfully submit that the rejected claims are patentably distinct over the references cited by the Examiner and meet all other statutory requirements. We believe that the present Application is now in complete condition for allowance and, therefore, respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejections in the Office Action and allow this Application.

We invite the Examiner to telephone the undersigned should any issues remain after the consideration of this response. Please charge any additional fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. 50-2548.

Respectfully requested,

NELSON MULLINS RILEY & SCARBOROUGH

August 22, 2005
Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neil C. Jones", is written over a horizontal line.

Neil C. Jones
Registration No. 35,561
Meridian, Suite 1700
1320 Main Street
Columbia, SC 29201
Phone: (864) 250-2260
Fax: (803) 256-7500